

2015-J414

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Carol and Jay Anthony upon the occasion of their designation as recipients of the 2015 Silver Bell Award by the Mental Health Association in Orange County, Inc. on February 7, 2015

WHEREAS, Individuals who bring greater awareness to mental health issues, and assist people with mental illnesses in their quest for dignity and independence, are a great benefit to the health and welfare of all citizens; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and fully in accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Carol and Jay Anthony upon the occasion of their designation as recipients of the 2015 Silver Bell Award by the Mental Health Association in Orange County, Inc. on Saturday, February 7, 2015, at the Villa Venezia, Middletown, New York; and

WHEREAS, Each year the Mental Health Association in Orange County, Inc. proudly honors outstanding organizations, businesses, and members of the community who give unselfishly of themselves to help make the lives of others fulfilling, recognizing them for their dedication to the community and their commitment to this vital organization's mission; and

WHEREAS, This prestigious honor will be bestowed upon Carol and Jay Anthony in recognition of their many years of significant support to the Mental Health Association in Orange County and for their unwavering assistance in helping the agency achieve its mission; and

WHEREAS, The Mental Health Association in Orange County seeks to promote the positive mental health and emotional well-being of Orange County residents, working toward reducing the stigma of mental illness and developmental disabilities, and providing support to victims of sexual assault and other crimes; and

WHEREAS, Working in partnership with service recipients, families,

volunteers and the community, the Mental Health Association in Orange County strives to fulfill its mission through advocacy, direct service, education and information dissemination; and

WHEREAS, Natives of Middletown, New York, Carol and Jay Anthony have served as active volunteers and significant contributors to their community facilitating several fundraising programs and awareness events; and

WHEREAS, Strong advocates for Autism Awareness, Carol and Jay Anthony initiated the Wallkill Challenger Soccer League, which gave their autistic son and hundreds of other children with special needs the opportunity to learn skills and play soccer; the league gives families the chance to network and make valuable connections to assist their children; and

WHEREAS, Carol and Jay Anthony were instrumental in the success of Relay for Life, a fundraising event which raises funds for cancer awareness; and

WHEREAS, In 2004, Carol Anthony, along with other members of a special committee, partnered with the Mental Health Association to form the Autism Move-a-Thon of Orange County; a significant amount has been raised to benefit those with Autism spectrum disorders; and

WHEREAS, Together, Carol and Jay Anthony have supported the Mental Health Association by attending annual meetings and special events in the community, and each year participate in the Adopt-a-Family for the Holidays project; and

WHEREAS, Along with their family, Carol and Jay Anthony founded The Jay and Carol Anthony Foundation for Autistic Support, Inc. to help young adults who have been classified within the Autism Spectrum transition to adulthood and become functional and independent citizens within the community; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that those who enhance the well-being and vitality of their community and have shown a long and sustained commitment to excellence certainly have earned the

recognition and applause of all the citizens of this great Empire State;

now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Carol and Jay Anthony upon the occasion of their designation as recipients of the 2015 Silver Bell Award by the Mental Health Association in Orange County, Inc. on February 7, 2015; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Carol and Jay Anthony.